

Appl. No. 09/699,923
Resp to Advisory Action dated April 25, 2005
RCE filed November 1, 2005

2. Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-14 (*Cancelled*)

Claim 15 (*Currently amended*) An *in vitro* method of preparing a dendritic cell population comprising the steps of:

- (a) contacting hematopoietic stem cells, or progenitor cells, or hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells with a growth factor or cytokine *in vitro*, wherein the growth factor or cytokine consists of flt3-ligand in an amount sufficient to generate a dendritic cell population;
- (b) exposing the dendritic cells to an antigen; and
- (c) allowing the dendritic cells to process and express the antigen.

Claim 16 (*Currently amended*) An *in vitro* method of preparing a dendritic cell population comprising the steps of:

- (a) contacting hematopoietic stem cells, or progenitor cells, or hematopoietic stem and progenitor cells with a growth factor or cytokine *in vitro*, wherein the growth factor or cytokine consists of flt3-ligand and GM-CSF in amounts sufficient to generate a dendritic cell population;
- (b) exposing the dendritic cells to an antigen; and
- (c) allowing the dendritic cells to process and express the antigen.

Claims 17-22 (*Cancelled*)

Claim 23 (*Previously presented*) The method according to claim 15 wherein the flt3-ligand is human flt3-ligand.

Claim 24 (*Previously presented*) The method according to claim 16 wherein the flt3-ligand is human flt3-ligand.

Claim 25 (*Previously presented*) The method according to claim 16 wherein the GM-CSF is human GM-CSF.

Claims 26-28. (*Cancelled*)

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Claim 29 (*Currently amended*) An in vitro method, comprising:
 (a) collecting hematopoietic stem cells, progenitor cells, or hematopoietic
 stem and progenitor cells;
 (b) ~~of preparing a dendritic cell population, the method comprising~~
 contacting the hematopoietic stem or progenitor cells with a growth factor or
 cytokine in vitro, wherein the growth factor or cytokine consists of flt3-ligand;
 and
 (c) ~~in an amount sufficient to generate a dendritic cell population, thereby~~
 driving the cells to differentiate into generating a the dendritic cell population.

Claims 30-35 (*Cancelled*)

Claim 36 (*Previously presented*) The method according to claim 29 wherein the
flt3-ligand is human flt3-ligand.

Claim 37 (*Cancelled*)

Claim 38 (*Currently amended*) The method of claims 15, 16, or 29, wherein the
hematopoietic stem cells, or progenitor cells, or hematopoietic stem and progenitor
cells have been enriched for the CD34+ phenotype.

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